
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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Real Estate License Revocations

RICHMOND – The Virginia Real Estate Board issued two license revocations at its most recent meeting Thursday, Jan. 27. Following is a summary of the Board's actions. Copies of the file orders are available online at www.dpor.virginia.gov under "License Lookup."

TANISHA MARIA CARTER

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

File Number 2004-02143

COMPLAINANT – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

VIOLATIONS –Carter was convicted of a felony for making a false statement in a HUD transaction. Carter also failed to notify the Board of the conviction and failed to respond to the Board's inquiry.

BOARD ACTION – Revocation of License No. 0225054790.

FRANK J. SOPKO

STAFFORD, VA

File Number 2004-04816

COMPLAINANTS – Colleen and Michael Salvio (Fredericksburg, VA)f

VIOLATIONS –Sopko was convicted of misdemeanors for violating §18.2-37 (Crimes Involving Morals and Decency). Sopko also failed to notify the Board of the convictions and, as a result, obtained his license by false or fraudulent representation.

BOARD ACTION – Revocation of License No. 2705069989.

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About DPOR and the Real Estate Board:

The Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) administers and enforces laws regulating 31 commercial occupations and certain professions. The agency licenses or certifies more than 265,000 individuals and businesses ranging from architects and contractors to cosmetologists and professional wrestlers.

DPOR investigates reports of regulatory violations by licensees; pursues complaints of criminal activity by unlicensed practitioners; responds to business-related consumer inquiries and requests for license checks; administers recovery funds for consumers harmed in contractor or real estate transactions; and conducts mediation services and public awareness campaigns.

The Real Estate Board licenses approximately 58,000 businesses and individuals who represent others in property transactions, including those dealing with condominiums, cooperatives, and time-shares. The Board also administers the Virginia Real Estate Transaction Recovery Fund, which provides monetary relief to eligible consumers who incur losses through the improper and dishonest conduct of a licensed real estate practitioner. The fund is supported entirely by assessments paid by licensed real estate professionals, not by any tax revenues.

For more information, visit DPOR online at www.dpor.virginia.gov.